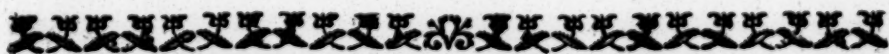
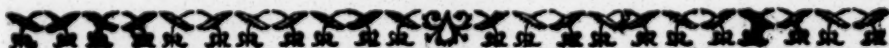


154
A
VINDICATION
OF THE
CONDUCT

H. Mac Cann OF *(J.)*
Mr. JOHN MC. CANNON,
Lately of this City,
WOOLLEN-DRAPER.

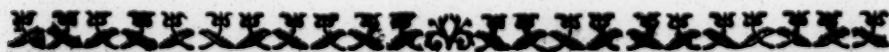


Written by HIMSELF.



*Who steals my Purse, steals trash; 'tis something, nothing;
'Twas mine, 'tis his; and has been Slave to Thousands;
But he, that filches from me my good Name,
Robs me of that, which not enriches him,
And makes me poor indeed.-----*

SHAKESPEAR.

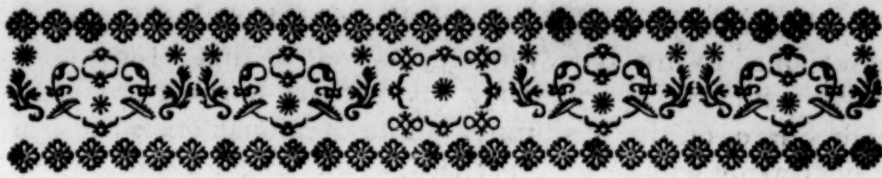


D U B L I N :

Printed for the Children of the late JAMES ESDALL,
at the Corner of Copper-Alley, on Cork-Hill,

M,DCC,LV.





A
VINDICATION
OF THE
CONDUCT
OF
Mr. *John Mc. Cannon,*
Lately of this City,
WOOLLEN - DRAPER.

IT is the Remark of a late excellent Writer, * *That but few are thoroughly sensible* of the Mischief they do. This Maxim is in no Instance, that I can recollect, so glaringly verified, as in the Wagging of the Tongue; at least, it has been my unspeakable Misfortune to have thus experienced it, probably to my utter Undoing: And this is indeed the sole Reason why the Town is troubled with the following Vindication.

FOR nothing beside the most urgent Necessity could have driven me to such a Step, at a Time too when I am abandoned to an Excess of Grief and Despondence, in Consequence of the many Calamities with which I am invironed. By this Means, I think it not impossible to erase, in some

* *Rochfaucault.*

Degree, from the Minds of Men, the Attentive and Candid, at least, any unjust Prepossessions they may have inadvertently entertained to my Disadvantage, as well as that of my Family, who have (particularly my Father) borne a considerable Share of the Calumny. The Reasonableness of the Undertaking will appear, perhaps, in a stronger Light, when it is considered that the Mischief, for want of a proper Check, extends and spreads itself daily. Hence has arisen what I count upon as the greatest Evil, *viz.* that the Benevolent, the Virtuous, from a deceitful Appearance of Justice, on the other Side, have repaired to, and listed under, the Banners of those, who have, (I hope) not from mere Malice, but wantonly, almost completed my Destruction: I am the better inclined to conclude thus charitably, as not being conscious of having offended one of them. But be it as it may, I mean on no Account *to render to them Railing for Railing*; I thank Heaven even Affliction and Oppression have not deprived me of Patience and a Willingness to forgive, nay serve, all who have in any Shape injured me. I would not, however, be thought, in what has been said above, even to insinuate that I am blameless; my Imprudences and Weaknesses are, I own, many: But I flatter myself that the Balance will be found on the Side of my Integrity. All I request of the Reader is, to divest himself as well as he is able of the first deep-rooted ill Impression, and listen to a Number of Facts, thrown together in a Hurry without Art or Gloss, and which have nothing to recommend them but the Truths they contain; Truths supported by the best Authority, attested by reputable Vouchers, and Persons of undoubted Veracity.

IN September, 1746, I opened a Woollen-Draper's Shop in *Castle-Street*, possessed of a Capital of 500 *l.* and the November following married the Daughter of a Citizen, with whom I got 300 *l.* From the Acquaintance and Influence of the Families thus united, added to a fixed Resolution of applying myself indefatigably to Business, as well as doing every Thing in my Power to oblige, I made little Question of succeeding. Like most young Men at their setting out in Business, I endeavoured to engage as many Customers as I could, and having been little hacknied in the Ways of Men, I foolishly imagined, that the Days on which I sold considerable Quantities of Goods, I was in a fair Way of Thriving, never considering the Difficulty and often the Impossibility of receiving Payment for the same.

AT this Time I had a Factor in *London*, whose Demands I punctually answered; and my Conduct in that Respect was the Means of establishing my Credit there. My great Error, indeed the Rock on which I have since split, was the ill Use I made of this Confidence, by dealing beyond my Ability. By this Means I became greatly embarrassed, and was frequently necessitated to borrow Money to support my Credit: And as my Friends were on those Occasions my Sureties, my Distress was by that Means doubled, as I feared for them rather more than myself.

I SHALL pass over the many Trials I had to go through during my Residence in *Castle-Street*, and hasten to that Period, from which began the many Aspersions and unjust Censures that have been sent abroad, to the great Injury of my Reputation. It has been confidently alledged, that my Failure was a Scheme set on Foot to baffle and defraud my Creditors; that the Goods bought in *London* were sold by Virtue of a sham Execution, given to my Father with that Intent; that I have been a Robber of the Public, and ruined the Credit of the Trade of this City.

Now if I can make it appear, beyond all Contradiction, to an unprejudiced Mind, that I had no such View; that I was at most but imprudent, not only in accepting, but, on the other Hand, in giving too large Credit; that, to do Justice to my Creditors, I have left myself, Wife and Children, destitute; that of near 9000*l.* due at the Time of my Failure in *Castle-Street*, I have since paid and secured 7928*l.* without Composition or Abatement; that the Debts I was obliged to compound did not amount to 1018*l.* out of which I discharged 495*l.* that, on an Average, I have paid 18*s.* 9*d.* in the Pound, and, upon the Whole, was but 522*l.* deficient; I say, if these Things are considered, (my Youth and Unexperience taken into the Account) am I not rather intitled to the Pity than Indignation of my Fellow-Citizens.

My Factor dying in 1748, I had Letters from several Merchants of *London*, from whom he bought Goods on my Account, offering me Credit for any Thing I might want; and one in particular sent me several Parcels to a considerable Amount. In *July*, 1749, I set out for that City, in order to settle a Correspondence, and purchase Cloths, &c. for the following Winter, and was received with great Friendship by the

the Gentleman above mentioned, (a wholesale Woollen-Draper) who not only made me an Offer of unlimited Trust, but desired me to draw on him for whatever I might have occasion to buy elsewhere. This I unfortunately accepted of, prompted by Youth, (being then but 23 Years old) by Ambition in Trade, and spurred on by the Hope of a great and speedy Profit.

SOON after my Return, I found several pressing Demands for Money, the Payment of which I had been forced to postpone on Account of my going Abroad; a Fund too was wanting for the Duties of the Goods, and I was at the same Time indebted to several Manufacturers and others in *Dublin*, who insisted on immediate Payment. Several of these I discharged, others I secured, and those who remained unsatisfied, determined to do all in their Power to ruin me; in short, from the Day of my Landing to that of my Failure, I went through an uninterrupted Series of the most afflicting Distress; the Result of my Indiscretion and Inexperience added to the Facility of my Disposition.

AT this Time I was Master of a large Stock, beside upwards of 6000*l.* in my Books, so did not apprehend I should be obliged to give up a Trade and Credit, to establish and support which I had taken so much Pains. But in *November*, Demands being heavy as well as urgent, my Sureties became uneasy at their Situation, and insisted on being discharged from their Engagements. Press'd with these Loads on all Sides, which I was unable to support, and finding it impossible to satisfy my Creditors without getting further Time, which they refused to grant, tho' Security was given to such as were pressing.-----I had twenty Judgment Creditors, all of whom were secured by my Friends joining with me, and there were several Writs in the Sheriff's Office against me, to which I had given Bail, besides having drawn on some of my Well-wishers, in Favour of Persons to whom they were under Acceptance.

IN this truly distressful Circumstance what could I do? I supposed the most prudent Method would be to give my Father a Bond for the Amount of the Sum for which he was engaged on my Account, as it would save the Expence of entering so many Judgments, and lodging so many different Executions. This being approved of by those whom I consulted on that Occasion, I accordingly passed to him my Bond
for

for 3314*l.* on which a Judgment was entered and Execution lodged, *November 25, 1749.*

THE Judgment Creditors were then summoned, to whom my Father declared the Reason of what had been done, and offered to assign the Judgment to any of the Creditors whom they should appoint as Trustees for the rest. Upon which a Deed was drawn by Mr. *Mullock*, Notary, which was executed by my Father ; and Mr. *Robert Lawless*, (one of the Judgment Creditors,) and Mr. *Mullock* were appointed Trustees. It was then agreed that the Goods should be advertised and sold at prime Cost, to prevent as little Loss as possible; and the then Sub-Sheriff was paid a certain Sum for his Consent, adequate to his Fees.

THE Goods were accordingly advertised and sold, and the Money arising from each Day's Sale was at Night lodged in the Bank of Mess. *Kane and Latouche*, and their Receipts for the same delivered to the Sub-Sheriff, and the Judgments paid as the Goods were sold.

THE Facts related are so well known and attested, that I suppose it unnecessary to be more particular in the Recital of them; but for further Satisfaction I shall insert in its proper Place a List of the several Creditors, with their Names, (the Mention of which 'tis hoped they will excuse) together with the Sums respectively due and paid to each Person ; and as the Majority of them are still living, Persons of undoubted Characters, I make no question they will do me all imaginable Justice.

My closing in *Castle-Street* made much Noise, and greatly alarmed those whom it affected, as they were Strangers to the true Situation of my Affairs, and unacquainted with the Honesty of my Intentions. Many and various were the Reports on this Occasion: The Debts due by me were doubled in their Accounts, and 'twas confidently insisted on by many, that I never meant to pay a Shilling. Tho' certainly informed of the general Cry, I deemed it the best Way to remain silent, until I could exhibit a Proof, which would strike even Malice dumb, by doing my Creditors all the Justice in my Power: By this I concluded invidious Reflections at my Suit must needs speedily come to an End, little expecting alas! that at this Distance of Time I should become the Bye-word of the People, treated as an Out-cast; the Wounds I thought long
since

since healed made to bleed afresh, and my Misfortunes presented to me anew, with additional Aggravations.

WERE I the Doer of those Wrongs I am represented, what hindered, but I might have taken my Family to some distant Place, far from the Scene on which these Deeds are said to have been acted, and peacefully enjoy the Fruits of my Misdoings. This was practicable: This has been common with People guilty of the Crimes laid at my Door, and I had not been driven to the miserable Shift to which I am now obliged to have Recourse.

WHEN I found myself reduced to the Necessity of stopping Payment, I advertised my *English* Creditors of the Disaster. I informed them particularly of the Confusion of my Affairs, and promis'd sincerely nothing less or more than I intended to perform, viz. to act with all imaginable Honour and Justice.

AT the same Time I wrote to Mr. *Samuel Matthews*, Merchant of *Chester*, (to whom my Goods were consigned) that if any were forwarded to him on my Account, to deposit them in his Warehouse until further informed, for that my Affairs were in some Disorder. This Gentleman had, at this Time, shipped a Bale and Case of Goods on my Account, (which I then expected) to the Value of 300 *l.* which he immediately brought on Shore, and a few Days after delivered the same to the Clerk of the Merchant in *London*, (the Person before mentioned) Mr. *Chapman*, my principal Creditor in that City.

ON the Receipt of my Letter to him, he dispatched one of his People here to look into my Affairs, and furnished him with a proper Power to settle with me, as did another, to whom Mr. *Chapman* recommended me.

ON his Arrival in *Chester* he saw my Letter to *Matthews*, which made a favourable Impression, and convinced him in some Measure, that I acted from Principle. I hope the Reader will excuse me, if I am more than ordinarily circumstantial here, as I have been remarkably traduced in this Particular, a Report generally prevailing, that I was indebted to this Merchant 10,000 *l.* and shut up chiefly with a Design of defrauding him.

THE uncommon Friendship discovered by this worthy Man on my Behalf, and the Esteem with which he treated me, made me particularly desirous he should suffer as little as possible by my Misfortunes: And the Credit he has since given me, added to some Favours I received when last in *London*, convince me he still entertains the same favourable Opinion.

SHORTLY after, the Clerk landed in *Dublin*, I settled with and gave him Securities for the Money due to his Principal, Mr. *Chapman*, and Messrs. *Brough* and *Legrand*, of *London*, Merchants, without desiring a Penny of Abatement, though he had Instructions to accept of whatever I might propose.

THE following is a true Copy of his Receipt, the Original is now in my Hands, and may be seen by any that please.

RECEIVED from Mr. <i>John Mc. Cannon</i> , by seven Drafts on Mr. <i>Matthias Rowlands</i> , pay- able in four, six, eight, ten, fourteen, eighteen, and twenty-two Months after Date, one thou- sand one hundred Pounds, <i>English</i> Value, -	}	l. s. d. 1100 00 00
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By seven Drafts on Mr. <i>William Mc. Cannon</i> , payable in five, seven, nine, twelve, sixteen, twenty, and twenty-four Months after Date, eight hundred Pounds, <i>English</i> Value, -	}	800 00 00
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By <i>Arthur Judge</i> , Esq; his Bond and War- rant, payable the 1st Day of <i>October</i> next, for three hundred and ten Pounds, <i>Irish</i> Mo- dey, valued in <i>English</i> Money at two hundred and eighty-five Pounds four Shillings, - -	}	285 04 00
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By Assignment of a Debt of four hundred and twenty-six Pounds, <i>Irish</i> Money, due to the said <i>John Mc. Cannon</i> by <i>Robert Kennedy</i> , of <i>Cartrons</i> , in the County of <i>Longford</i> , Esq; valued in <i>English</i> Money at three hundred and seventy-one Pounds, - - - - -	}	371 00 00
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Carried forward, -	2556 04 00
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	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Brought forward, -	2556	04	00
By Captain <i>William Hardwick's</i> Note, valued in <i>English</i> Money at thirty-five Pounds sixteen Shillings and six Pence, - - - }	35	16	06
By Lieutenant <i>Nightingale's</i> Draft on Mr. <i>Barnard</i> , of <i>London</i> , for twenty-seven Pounds six Shillings, - - - - - }	27	06	00
By a Draft on <i>Thomas Wilson</i> , of <i>London</i> , for	7	02	00
By <i>Hugh Kerr</i> , on <i>Kerr</i> and <i>Elmes</i> , of } <i>London</i> , for - - - - - }	90	10	06
By Cash, - - - - -	34	04	06
By Note to Messrs. <i>Brough</i> and <i>Legrand</i> , for ninety-one Pounds eleven Shillings and six Pence, <i>English</i> Money, payable two Years after Date, - - - - - }	91	11	06
By Goods returned, - - - - -	47	05	00
<i>English</i> Money, -	2890	00	00

Which said Drafts, Bond, Assignment, Cash, Notes, and Goods, amount in the whole to the Sum of two thousand eight hundred and ninety Pounds, *English* Money, and when paid will be in full for the Sum of two thousand six hundred and two Pounds, due to Mr. *Joseph Chapman*, of *London*, Merchant; and for the Sum of two hundred and eighty-eight Pounds, due to Messrs. *Brough* and *Legrand*, of *London*, Merchants; and in full of all Demands whatsoever to the 2d of *February*, 1749.

JOHN OLDFIELD.

(*A true Copy.*)

As soon as I had finished the above Settlement, I applied myself closely to my other Affairs; and from the Estimate I made out immediately after my Failure, calculated I should not only be able to pay my Creditors their full Demands, without desiring any Abatement, but have a Sufficiency left to enable me to provide for myself and Family; and therefore very imprudently settled with my Creditors, one by one,

as I cou'd get in Money or Securities to give them, nor did I discover the Error I had been guilty of, until it was too late. The Sale of my Goods continued seven Months, attended with great Loss, Sheriff's Fees Cost, and other Expences; having a large Family to maintain during the Sale, beside the Payment of House Rent, Shopkeepers, Clerk's and Servants Wages: The Interest of my House, Improvements and Fixtures, were also sold at a great under Value, and at the same time I was involv'd in several Law-suits, for recovery of Debts justly due, and in defence of Suits commenc'd against me.

WHEN the Sale of the Goods was finish'd, and the House sold, I settled Accounts with my Father, and gave him Securities to answer the new Engagements he had entered into for me. I then made out a second Estimate of my Affairs, and found I had been greatly mistaken in my first Calculation, and shou'd be under the necessity of Compounding with the Creditors then unsettled with. Within eight Months from the time of my Failure, I paid, settled and secured for my Creditors, upwards of 7700*l.* and tho' the Debts I was afterwards oblig'd to compound did not amount to 1020*l.* the Persons I owed the Money to were so irritated (and I cannot help thinking very justly) at the Preference given the rest, that it was above 20 Months before I finish'd the Settlement of my Affairs. I shall now lay before the Publick, a List of the Debts I owed at the Time of my Failure in *Castle-Street*, with the Names of my Creditors, and the Sums respectively due and paid to each Person. By it they will be able to judge how far I have injured the Publick, or Trade of this City, as hath been so currently propagated.

November 25, 1749. A LIST of DEBTS due by JOHN MC. CANNON, then of the City of *Dublin*, Woollen-Dra-
er, with the respective Sums since paid and secured to each Person, shewing the Deficiency on the Whole; taken *September 2, 1751.* (N. B. The following is a true Copy of a List made out that Day.)

The following is a LIST of the DEBTS my Father was engaged for, and for Payment of which my Stock in Trade was fold.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
JAMES AGAR, Esq; <i>Dawson-Street</i> , - -	484	01	04
Mr. JOHN GIBSON, of <i>London</i> , Merchant, -	259	05	05
JOSEPH NENOE, <i>Clarendon-Street</i> , - -	207	13	09
JOSEPH CARNCROSS, <i>Mary-Street</i> , - -	113	05	09
SAMUEL RUSSELL, <i>Upper-Comb</i> , - -	133	06	04
THOMAS KELLY, <i>Grafton-Street</i> , - -	126	08	00
WILLIAM AYRES, <i>Indian-Alley</i> , - -	145	17	07
ROBERT LAWLESS, <i>High-Street</i> , - -	110	00	09
Mrs. ANN MURRAY, <i>York-Street</i> , - - -	163	10	00
Mrs. ELIZABETH BARKLEY, <i>Werburch-Street</i> ,	105	00	00
Mrs. KELLY, now ROONEY, <i>Aungier-Street</i> ,	102	00	00
Mrs. GILL, <i>Thomas-Street</i> , - - - - -	103	10	00
Mr. SCURLOG, <i>Abbey-Street</i> , - - - - -	103	00	00
Captain GORE, <i>ditto</i> , - - - - -	106	00	00
Mr. HENRY BARTON, <i>Eustace-Street</i> , - -	106	00	00
LEONARD COOPER, <i>Stephen's-Green</i> , -	105	00	00
JOHN EVERARD, <i>Gravel-Walk</i> , - - -	105	00	00
JOHN MURPHY, <i>ditto</i> , - - - - -	106	07	08
Mr. BUTLER, <i>Grafton-Street</i> , - - - - -	103	00	00
Mr. LANGTON, <i>since dead</i> , - - - - -	51	10	00
GEO. THWAITES, <i>Crooked-Staff</i> , - -	79	12	10
BRYAN ROURK, <i>since dead</i> , - - - -	85	13	11
DAN. MC. MULLIN, <i>since dead</i> , - -	73	00	00
THO. GIBBONS, <i>Winetavern-Street</i> , -	66	08	04
ANTHONY WARREN, <i>Island-Bridge</i> , -	54	10	06
CHA. CAVANAGH, <i>High-Street</i> , - -	44	00	00
JAM. BRADFORD, <i>Lower-Combe</i> , - - -	43	16	02
ALEXANDER RIKY, <i>Chamber-Street</i> , -	27	06	00
JAMES TOBIN, <i>Back-Lane</i> , - - - - -	28	03	08
ROGER MC. GUIRE, <i>Liffey-Street</i> , - -	25	15	00
TIM. FITZGERALD, <i>Lower-Castle-Yard</i> , -	25	00	00
Mr. MC. CABE, - - - - -	18	04	00
Mrs. POCOCK, for Rent, - - - - -	41	05	00
Brought forward,	3452	12	00

N. B.

l. s. d.
Brought forward, 3452 12 00

	l.	s.	d.
N. B. My Stock in Trade sold } for - - - - - }	3312	00	00
The Interest of my House, &c.	100	00	00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3412	00	00
Out of which was paid for } Sheriff's Fees and other Charges, }	139	02	03
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3272	17	09
Ballance which I paid, - -	179	14	03
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3452	12	00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The following is a LIST of the Creditors that were paid and secured their full Demands,

Mr. JOSEPH CHAPMAN, of London, - -	2836	00	00
BROUGH and LEGRAND, ditto, - -	314	00	00
HUGH Mc. BAINE, ditto, - - - -	237	00	00
Mr. FRAN. CRUMP, of ditto, - - - -	50	00	00
OGIER and Co. of ditto, - - - -	42	00	00
EPHRAIM WINN, of Halifax, - - -	75	10	00
SAMUEL MATHEWS, of Chester, - - -	13	01	07
ROBERT BENTLEY, Kennedy's-Lane - -	121	00	00
Captain JOHNSTON, Kildare-Street, - -	91	03	01
WILL. AYRES, Indian-Alley, - - - -	91	00	00
SWIFT and Co. Castle-Street, - - - -	30	15	00
MRS. BUZBY, since dead, - - - - -	30	00	00
MRS. KELLY, now ROONEY, Aungier-Street, -	42	00	00
Mr. SAMUEL BAKER, Nicholas-Street, - - -	32	15	08
WILL. GENT, Caple-Street, - - - -	33	00	00
Counsellor KELLY, - - - - -	27	07	10
PATT JACOB, Broadthwaite-Street, - -	20	00	00
MILES GALLAGHER, Watling-Street, -	40	05	02
CLEMENT DAWSON, Fervis-Quay, -	30	00	00
HENRY BARTON, Eustace-Street, - - -	30	00	00
JOHN TOMLINSON, Francis-Street, - -	20	00	00
JOHN CASEY, Lower-Combe, - - - -	24	00	00
SAMUEL FODGER, Meath-Street, - - -	43	04	03
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Brought forward, 7726 14 07

JOHN

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Brought forward, -	77	26	14 07
JOHN TEMPLETON, <i>Abbey-Street</i> , - -	42	05	00
CHARLES DELANY, <i>Francis-Street</i> , - -	18	03	06
JAMES MEHARD, <i>Ring's-End</i> , - - -	9	11	04
CHRISTOPHER BATH, <i>Cork-Hill</i> , - - -	9	02	00
LUKE SAVAGE, <i>Christ-Church-Yard</i> , - -	6	07	03
JAMES FERRAL, <i>Blind-Quay</i> , - - -	5	15	00
SAMUEL SEMPILL, <i>Dame-Street</i> , - - -	7	03	06
THOMAS ROSS, - - - - -	11	07	06
Mr. SMITH, - - - - -	9	14	10
PROCTOR and BOARDMAN, (my two Shop-keepers, - - - - - } Small Debts, about - - - - -	32	00	00
	50	00	00

Amount of Debts paid and secured without any Abatement, - - -	79	28	04 06
Amount of Debts due in <i>England</i> , that were paid upon a Composition, - - -	57	1	19 06
Amount of Debts due my <i>Irish</i> Creditors, that were paid upon a Composition, - - -	44	5	18 00

Amount of Debts due by JOHN MC. CANNON, 25th <i>November</i> , 1749, - - -	89	46	02 00
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	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Deficient to my <i>English</i> Creditors,	272	09	09
Ditto to my <i>Irish</i> Creditors,	249	13	09

Deficient upon the Whole,	522	03	06
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The following is a LIST of the Creditors that were paid upon a Composition.

	<i>Sums due.</i>	<i>Sums paid.</i>
	<i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>
Mr. GIBSON, of <i>London</i> , -	283 18 06	141 19 03
Mr. FLEMING, of <i>ditto</i> , -	83 19 00	41 19 06
Mr. HARROP, of <i>ditto</i> , -	54 00 00	40 10 00
Mr. POTTER, of <i>Manchester</i> , -	150 02 00	75 01 00

Amount of Debts due in <i>England</i> , that were paid upon a Composition, - - -	571	19	06	299	09	09
Paid out of the above,	299	09	09			
Deficient to my <i>English</i> Creditors,	272	09	09			

Mr.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Mr. JO. WILLIAMS, <i>Cole-Alley</i>	120	00	00	62	15	00
JO. WEBSTER, <i>Francis-Street</i> ,	84	00	00	50	14	02
GAB. CLARK, late of <i>New-Row</i> ,	75	04	00	25	01	04
DIGGES LATOUCHE, Esq; { now in <i>London</i> ,	36	19	06	12	06	06
JO. BARECROFT, <i>Pimlico</i> , -	30	00	00	10	00	00
<i>Ditto</i> for LABAN, <i>ditto</i> , -	30	00	00	10	00	00
GEO. WISHERT, <i>George's-Lane</i> ,	28	10	00	09	10	00
R. MC. GUIRE, <i>Liffey-Street</i> ,	13	19	09	04	13	03
J. MC. EVOY, <i>Meath-Street</i> , -	14	10	00	04	16	08
J. MEARES, late of <i>Cork-Hill</i> ,	12	14	09	06	07	04
Amount of Debts due my <i>Irish</i>	}					
Creditors paid on Composition,				445	18	00
Paid out of the above,				196	04	03
Deficient to my <i>Irish</i> Creditors,	249	13	09			

WHEN I had put an End to the Settlement of my Affairs, all to whom I had been indebted were so well satisfied with the Equitableness of my Proceedings upon the Whole, that they encouraged me to open Shop again; I had several Offers of fresh Credit, and some of my Friends proposed an Assistance in Cash. At this Time I had nothing left but the Refuse of old Debts, out of which, with much Difficulty, I collected about 200*l.* with this Trifle, and upon the Promises made, I began Business a second Time, but soon found to my Cost, like many more, the Vanity of relying on such Props; for those who prompted me on, instead of keeping their Word, were the Persons foremost in distressing me. Thus I became involved in fresh Difficulties, lost the little I had left, and had the additional Vexation of having engaged my Relations in new Securities.

As I don't find myself charged with having injured the Publick on my last Failure, I shall only add, that in *March*, 1753, finding my Endeavours to little Purpose, I resigned all my Effects to the Creditors.

	<i>l.</i>
I then owed about	2200
Of which I have paid and secured above	2000
Ballance about	200

My Hopes thus blasted, and a melancholy Scene of Uncertainty before my Eyes, after some Deliberation, I resolved to try my Ability on the Stage, and, by the Advice of Persons skilled

skilled in those Matters, I made my first Essay in a Country Company in *England*, remarkably the Resort of the politest People in *Europe*.

ON my Return to *Dublin*, I applied to the Managers of the Theatre-Royal for Permission to play a Trial Character, with which they were so kind to favour me, and for my own Benefit, on paying the Expence of the House. This done, I requested an Indulgence from those to whom I am indebted until my Benefit; promising an equal Distribution of the Money arising from the same. This was consented to, and one of them took Tickets to the Amount of 20 *l.* which, as he informs me, he has disposed of. The Time appointed was the 8th Instant, the Play, *The Fair Penitent*; and I have good Reason to suppose I should have had a numerous Audience. But to my unspeakable Surprise, as well as Disappointment, I heard that a Party was formed, who had resolved not only to prevent, but insult me, in Case I attempted to play; this is the Purport of a Letter written to one of the Managers the Day before. At first indeed I questioned the Truth of the Account; being conscious to myself of no Crime, unless Misfortune may be called by that Name. But finding it confirmed from all Quarters, I thought it prudent (with the Approbation of the Managers) to postpone the Benefit until I had cleared up the Matter to the Satisfaction of every Man, who will not shut his Eyes against Information, and which I hope I have here effected.

Now, if the Public are convinced of the Truth of what is set forth in this Pamphlet, nor is there indeed much Room left for Doubt, as no one can well suppose me so impudently hardy as to alledge with Confidence Falshoods, which it is in the Power of every Man to detect, (as having published the Names and Places of Abode of all my Creditors) must not Malevolence herself allow, that I have been treated most severely. Already have I felt the Effects of my theatrical Disaster, being arrested last *Friday* on four Writs, by Persons, who were under solemn Engagements not to molest me; and the Reason given for their harsh and ungenerous Procedure was, *the Disappointment at my Benefit.* 6 DE 58

To conclude; I shall entreat little more than common Humanity requires of every Man, to espouse (in this small Instance) the Cause of a distressed Person, who greatly needs Protection; and if after all I have not given sufficient Satisfaction in Regard of my Innocence, let not my Family partake of the Punishment due to the supposed Crimes I am charged with.

Dublin, April 17th, 1755.

JOHN Mc. CANNON.

